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SPRING IS HERE! GET HAPPY! {page 14}

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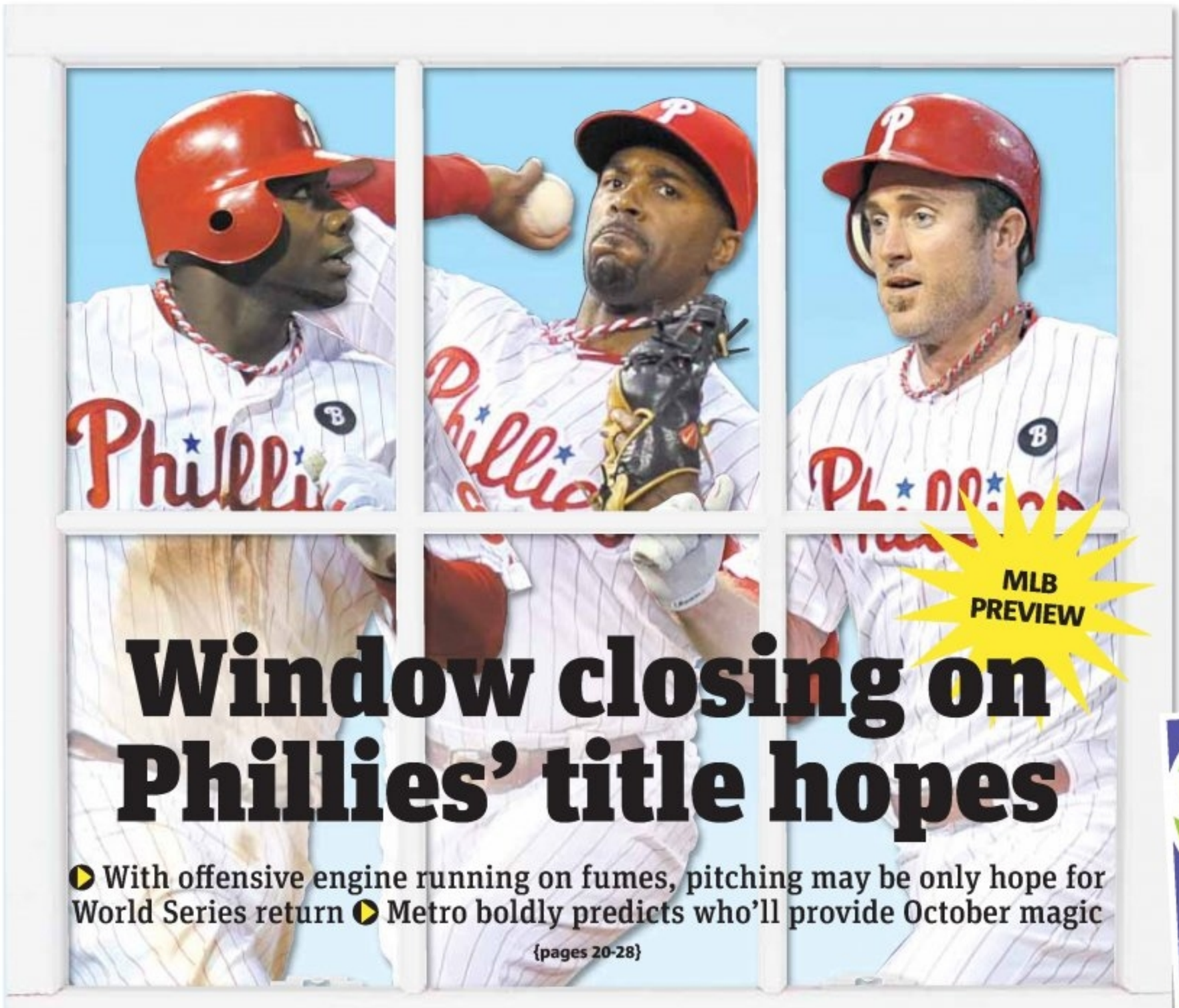

MLB PREVIEW

Window closing on Phillies' title hopes

With offensive engine running on fumes, pitching may be only hope for World Series return ◆ Metro boldly predicts who'll provide October magic

{pages 20-28}

Metropolitik

Mitt Romney: The amazing anti-politician

Likely GOP nominee says he's above the partisan divide
It's almost as if he believes all things at all times {page 08}

It's been 365 days of winning

Hard to believe, but we've only known the benefits of tiger blood for a year {page 10}

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★★★★ PAGE 23! ★★★★

New sidewalk lane for texting and walking

- Bizarre idea by City Hall officials is an April Fools' joke, sort of
- Transportation officials say it's serious about pedestrian safety

PAIGE OZAROSKI/METRO

▶ Morgan Buzik, T.J. Jizzi and Blake Feeley used the new lane, even if they didn't realize it.

Pedestrians were perplexed yesterday at the debut of the city's first "E-Lane" of sidewalk traffic, designated for those who wish to use electronic devices while walking, on the 1400 block of JFK Boulevard in Center City.

Some kept to their designated direction in the two-way lane demarcated by white paint. Some tip-toed carefully on the margins, while others avoided the lane altogether or burst into giggles at the signs depicting a stick figure holding up a mobile device.

Perhaps most tellingly, those buried in their cell phones seemed not to notice it at all. "I looked down, but I didn't know what it was," said T.J. Jizzi of Bensalem as he and two friends texted on their touch screens. Jizzi said that he thought the lane was a good idea, as he and his friends often bump into people while walking and using their phones.

But not everyone was sold. "I think it's a waste of money, honestly," said Philadelphia resident Gary Dixon as he waited for the bus. "There's a lot of issues you could address, confront and deal with that are very much more important. This would be way at the bottom."

Mayor Michael Nutter and the city's Office of Transportation and Utilities rolled out the lane at a press conference on Saturday. In honor of April Fools' Day, the pedestrian thoroughfare is what Chief of Staff Andrew Stober calls a "serious prank."

"It's not something we're going to keep after the pilot period," Stober said. "The pilot period is an opportunity over the course of the next week to start a dialogue about pedestrian safety and people looking out for themselves while walking around the city."

Stober said that the effort was entirely financed by donations, down to the tape marking off the lane.

"We noticed an increasing problem with people not paying attention to where they're going and being distracted by phones ... and thought this was a fun way to draw attention to the issue and hopefully make the city safer."
ANDREW STOBER, CITY TRANSPORTATION SPOKESMAN

▶ Cutler

"About every four hours a pedestrian in Philadelphia is struck by a car. The first thing one learns in kindergarten is to look both ways when crossing the street."
RINA CUTLER, DEPUTY MAYOR FOR TRANSPORTATION

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

In the news

11

Vehicles damaged in a new outbreak of tire slashings on a street in Claymont, Del., during the weekend, according to state police. With ongoing slashings rousing tempers in Northeast and West Philadelphia, the question is: Are copycats popping up across the region or are the low-level property crimes garnering more media attention? METRO

In the news

Sad miss
Friends of leukemia-stricken local teen Kevin McGuire announced some bad news on his Facebook fan page Saturday. "I am so sorry to announce this devastating news, but Kevin was admitted to the hospital last night, and is unable to attend the Academy of Country Music Awards with Taylor Swift," the post read.

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ WoS club

Man killed in gunfire near biker club

WEST PHILADELPHIA. A man was killed yesterday in a double shooting near the Wheels of Soul motorcycle club.

Gunfire erupted around 3:45 a.m. outside the club's private headquarters at 61st and Market streets, striking two men, police said. One man, 28, was shot multiple times. He was taken by private car to a nearby hospital by the time police arrived, but died shortly before 4 a.m.

Police located a second victim, 25, at Mercy Hospital with a gunshot wound to the face. He was transferred to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in critical condition.

That victim was sitting in a Dodge Charger when he was hit, police said. METRO/AW

▶ Vick

Vick in Web ads against animal abuse

PHILADELPHIA. The Humane Society has teamed up with Mike Vick to release two Web ads advocating against animal fighting.

"I wanted to be a voice in the fight against animal cruelty because I don't want kids to go down the wrong path, and I don't want more animals to be hurt, so I vowed to help more animals than I hurt. I feel like I owe that to a lot of animals," Vick intones in one of the ads.

The athlete served two years in prison for dog fighting. METRO/AW

Cops: Men beat trash scavenger

READING. Two Exeter Township neighbors mistakenly assaulted an elderly trash scavenger in the belief that he was a child predator, The Associated Press reported.

The men, charged Friday, were reportedly reacting to a Facebook post about a suspected pedophile in the area when they attacked the victim March 21. METRO

Body found in burning car

FELTONVILLE. Firemen battling a car blaze on the 4500 block of North Third Street around 2:30 a.m. yesterday found the body of an unknown woman in the passenger seat.

There were two bullet holes in the passenger door of the 2002 Chrysler Sebring, police said.

Investigators have not yet identified the woman; the motive is unknown at this time. METRO/AW

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BLOG

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Man killed in police chase ID'd

Police have identified the man killed during a high-speed police pursuit Friday night.

Danny Irizarry Roman, 36, of the 4800 block of North Eighth Street in Olney, died when another car's driver fleeing from police allegedly T-boned the car in which Roman was riding. That fatal, high-speed chase ended on West Ontario Street in Hunting Park. The driver and her 4-year-old son were also critically injured.

The driver of the striking car tried to flee on foot after the crash, but was caught by police on the 900 block of West Russell Street.

Police have identified him as Gregory Alston, 39, of the 4500 block of Fernhill Street in Germantown. He is charged with murder, homicide by vehicle and gun offenses.

"No, but I got this."

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● ALEXANDRA WIGGLESWORTH

SEPTA transit cops to vote on contract

● Transit officers returned to job midnight Saturday ● New deal with SEPTA 'very good chance' of being ratified today or tomorrow ● Strike was almost 10 days

BERARD LABMA/METRO

Though the terms of the new contract will not be publicly released until they pass a union ratification vote — which is to be held either today or tomorrow — SEPTA transit police and management have reached a tentative agreement, union spokesman Anthony Ingargiola said yesterday.

Talks wrapped up late Friday night and cops were back on duty by the midnight shift Saturday morning, Ingargiola said. Union members were expected to receive a written version of the new contract for consideration yesterday. Ingargiola said that the new terms have "a very good chance of passing" the vote, but they do not become official until both sides sign off on them.

219

Members of the Fraternal Order of Transit Police union who walked off the job shortly before 2 p.m. on March 21

Two hundred and nineteen members of the Fraternal Order of Transit Police walked off the job shortly before 2 p.m. on March 21, giving officials about a half an hour's notice in a move that drew criticism from Mayor Michael Nutter and Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey. The union had been working without a contract for a year.

Ingargiola previously said that, despite concessions made by the union regarding pensions and other areas, negotiations broke down during the nine-day strike over a $200,000 increase in "certification pay" that would cost SEPTA about $20 more per week.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Food. Farm festival

▶ Barbara Barnes, left, and her daughter, Robin Barnes, purchased chocolate from John & Kira's Chocolates at the farm fest.

PAIGE OZAROSKI FOR METRO

"Philly Farm & Food Fest" — which featured more than 100 regional farmers and food artisans — included unique locally made products ranging from ice cream and honey to organic meats and baked goods at Pennsylvania Convention Center yesterday. ● METRO

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Second phase for PATCO's fare upgrade

NEW JERSEY. PATCO has announced that riders will now be able to use contactless credit cards to ride the system as part of the second phase of a pilot program.

PATCO's new open-fare collection system was created by Cubic Transportation Systems and debuted last fall. The first phase allowed passengers to purchase a prepaid Visa card that could also be used at stores. The latest innovation will allow passengers to swipe their own Visa, MasterCard or Discover cards by a card reader at fare gates and parking lots.

As part of the promotion, those who use the prepaid card will be entered to win a $600 credit. METRO/SDL

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Getting on PATCO trains should be getting quicker.

PSU brass's alleged lies recounted

AP/PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

▶ Schultz

State prosecutors have listed a number of instances in which they claim two former Penn State University officials lied to a grand jury about their involvement in the Jerry Sandusky sex abuse scandal.

Former athletic director Tim Curley and now-retired financial officer Gary Schultz pleaded not guilty in January to charges of perjury and failing to report abuse allegations against Sandusky to police.

In response to a petition by Curley and Schultz to have the charges against them dropped, the Pennsylvania attorney general's office on Friday provided a list of 15 times in which they said Curley lied to the grand jury, and 18 for Schultz.

Prosecutors also wrote that they believe the former Penn State employees were trying to "take advantage" of Paterno's death from lung cancer.

Curley and Schultz argued in their February motions to dismiss the perjury charges, saying Paterno was not available to support McQueary's testimony during their criminal trial and there was no one else to back up his claim.

"McQueary's testimony was corroborated by that of his father, John McQueary ... (who) testified that he met with Defendant Schultz some time after the incident described by his son," wrote Bruce Beemer, the attorney general's chief of staff.

The attorneys for Curley and Schultz, Caroline Roberto and Tom Farrell, had little to say in response to the prosecution's rebuttal.

"We have received the prosecution's filings and look forward to reviewing their responses," they said in a joint statement. REUTERS

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Entertainment. New venue

▶ Kryz Reid and Stephan Jenkins, left and right, of Third Eye Blind, headlined the opening of Xfinity Live! this weekend.

GETTY IMAGES

A concert officially opened the city's newest entertainment venue at the South Philadelphia sports complex Saturday evening. Mayor Michael Nutter and Flyers owner Ed Snider helped unveil Xfinity Live! earlier in the day, though the facility actually opened first Wednesday night for Bruce Springsteen concertgoers. METRO

Santorum won't quit race; GOP leader calls for unity

The U.S. Senate's top Republican called on his party to unite behind leading presidential candidate Mitt Romney yesterday as rival Rick Santorum vowed to stay in the race beyond a likely defeat in tomorrow's Wisconsin primary.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell stopped short of endorsing Romney in an interview on CNN's "State of the Union" show. But McConnell did say the former Massachusetts governor would make an "excellent nominee" and left little doubt about whom he supported in the battle to take on Democratic President Barack Obama in the Nov. 6 election.

"It's time to turn our attention to the fall campaign and make the case against the president of the United States.

"It's important to get behind the person who is obviously going to be our nominee"

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER MITCH MCCONNELL SAID, REFERRING TO ROMNEY.

"It's important to get behind the person who is obviously going to be our nominee," McConnell said, referring to Romney.

A victory in Wisconsin's primary tomorrow would give Romney an almost insurmountable lead in the Republicans' state-by-state nominating contest.

McConnell joined a chorus of other top Republicans who have called for the nominating process to wind down.

REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Santorum said a defeat in Wisconsin would not force him from the race and predicted he would do well in May, when several conservative states hold their primaries.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ National League for Democracy supporters celebrate their victory in the parliamentary elections outside the party headquarters.

Myanmar opposition claims major win for popular San Suu Kyi

Myanmar's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi won a seat in parliament yesterday, her party said, after a historic by-election that is testing the country's nascent reform credentials and could persuade the West to end sanctions.

Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party claimed victories in at least 19 of the 45 available seats and announced to loud cheers that the Nobel Peace Prize laureate had won in Kawhmu, southwest of the commercial capital Yangon, raising the prospect of a sizable political role following a two-decade struggle against military dictatorship.

The charismatic and wildly popular Suu Kyi did not address the crowd but issued a statement asking supporters to respect the other parties.

REUTERS

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KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Mitt Romney won't stop until he's done an end to the health care bill that he himself inspired!

Mitt Romney has trust issues. The Republican presidential candidate, accused of having worn through more flip-flops than a spring break veteran, has earned a reputation of trustworthiness approximately commensurate with that owed to an Etch-a-Sketch. Over the course of his political career, but especially during the tendentious 2012 nominating process, the infamous "Massachusetts moderate" has become known for saying whatever needs saying, whenever it needs to be said, with the express goal of serving his political ambitions.

Cynical readers will note that this actually describes all politicians. Of course. But that doesn't mean we can't still hold Romney rhetorically accountable for his obvious dissembling. Take this past weekend for example, during which His Mittness addressed a Wisconsin crowd ahead of the state's primary tomorrow, touting his apparent immunity to partisan hackery.

"I didn't criticize in a public and personal way the Senate president or the speaker of the House," Romney said, claiming that as governor he was able to stand above the typical divide between the two parties. "They would attack me because that's what Republicans and Democrats do to each other. At one point, one of the two of them — I won't mention which one — sent me a note. And he said, 'I've noticed that you don't respond to my attacks, I'm going to stop attacking you.' And there began a better relationship."

You see? Just like his porous positions on abortion rights and the individual mandate, Romney was for bipartisan harmony before he was against it. He would never attack his rivals, because that's what those other people do, and he's not one of them. Except, of course, when he is.

Like that same day, when he accused President Obama of failing America and of having radically different views from the rest of us. "Our president doesn't have the same feelings about American exceptionalism that we do," Romney said within hours of his high-minded refutation of ad hominem attacks. "This president has failed us. ... He broke a lot of promises."

Romney, on the other hand, is a man of his words. All of them, unfortunately.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

GET FED

Because sometimes you only have time to skim the headlines:

- "Ron Paul: Romney-Paul ticket not happening" **POLITICO.COM**
- "Rick Santorum Is Sticking It Out, Wisconsin Win or No" **NYMAG.COM**
- "Gingrich and Paul Hang in There" **BLOGS.WSJ.COM**
- "NPR, Politico Are the April Fools on Obamacare" **BREITBART.COM**
- "Santorum: It's Not Even Halftime Yet" **NEWSER.COM**
- "A Crucial Question: Are We Shooting Enough Endangered Species?" **HOTAIR.COM**
- "Keith Olbermann's Angry E-Mail Trail Traces Breakup with Current TV" **THEDAILYBEAST.COM**
- "McConnell Says Romney 'Obviously' Will Be Nominee, But Stops Short of Endorsement" **NATIONAL JOURNAL**
- "Paul Ryan Says He 'Misspoke' About Testimony of Generals" **ABC NEWS**

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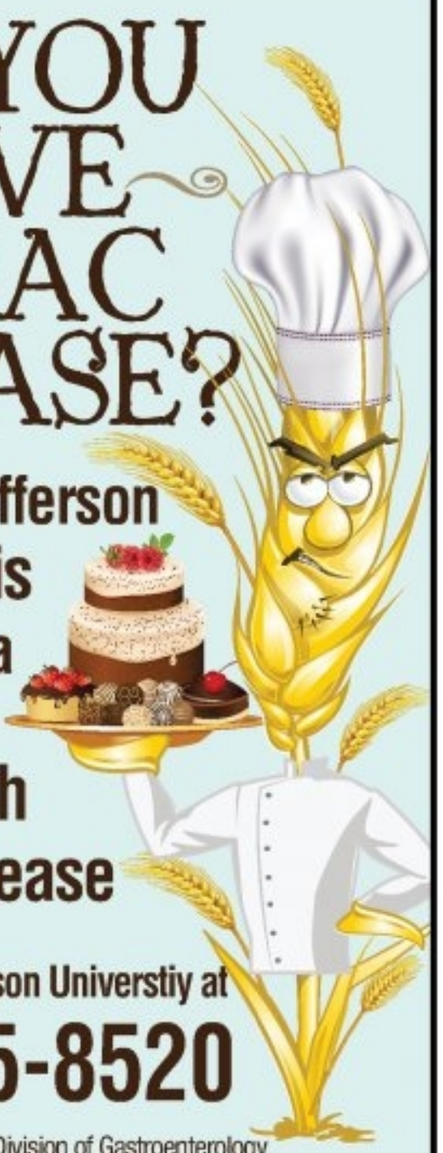

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The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Garry Shandling knows what you've heard about him, Jenny McCarthy is a little shaky, Conan O'Brien is taking in some culture and Roseanne Barr is looking for a way out.

@GarryShandling
I hate gossip. Ask anyone.

@JennyMcCarthy
feeling earthquake-y. just sayn.

@ConanOBrien
The Smithsonian has a video game exhibit. There's even a tour guide who yells at you for not being outside on such a nice day.

@TheRealRosanne
how can I delete this twitter account-does anyone know? I dont understand twitter at all-I am 2 tech challenged for it-

Shandling

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Morning shows heat up this week

▶ Couric

▶ Palin

▶ Oprah

The "Today" show is responding to the missile that ABC hurled last week — the announcement that anchorwoman **Katie Couric** is guest-hosting "Good Morning America" — with a nuclear warhead of its own: The NBC morning show announced over the weekend that Tuesday's guest-host will be none other than **Sarah Palin** (yes, that Sarah Palin. We thought it was an April Fools joke, too).

To make things even more interesting, **Oprah** is stopping by "CBS Morning News" today to see her BFF, host **Gayle King**. According to a CBS press release, Oprah's coming to "discuss everything from the latest developments at OWN, her Leadership Academy and life after her daytime talk show."

Katie Couric, Sarah Palin, Oprah: It's as though this week's morning news ratings war was created just to give the rival networks' late-night talk-show hosts something to joke about.

Charlie Sheen: Oh, what a year

It's hard to believe, but it's been a full year since **Charlie Sheen**'s very public meltdown and the words "tiger blood" were launched into the public lexicon. Now Sheen is embarking on something of an apology tour. "I didn't recognize parts of who that guy was. I just wish it was somebody else's body. You say it's been a year — it's either been a day, or a hundred years," Sheen told **Matt Lauer** during an interview on the "Today" show last week. "I guess the plan was to reintroduce myself to America and to the media and say, 'Sorry about that, but here's what's happening now.'" Clearly, that didn't go as planned. Now Sheen is busying promoting a new TV show, FX's "Anger Management." "I couldn't have the 'Two and a Half Men' thing be my television legacy," Sheen says. "I couldn't have that end on that note."

Talking points

Lohan celebrates freedom via partying

Despite advice from a judge that she should probably stop partying, **Lindsay Lohan** celebrated the end of her formal probation by throwing a little get-together at the Chateau Marmont, according to Radar Online. "Lindsay's guests ate paella and watched **Elizabeth Taylor**'s 'Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?' Lindsay was in an extremely good mood and grateful to be off of formal probation," a source says. "The party went until around 2 a.m. Alcohol was being served in moderation, but Lindsay wasn't seen drinking. It's just rather strange that Lindsay chose to have the party at the hotel, especially after what the judge said to her in court."

Lohan

Brand is philosophical

Don't worry about **Russell Brand** — he's doing just fine. "I'm doing well," Brand, who filed for divorce from **Katy Perry** late last year, tells People magazine. And apparently "well" means he's in a philosophical mood. "You don't need to brush it off if you don't get it on you in the first place," he says. "I don't have to let anything go. I don't hold on to anything negative. It's the same as zeroness." He's also not holding onto his recent arrest in New Orleans, which is "meaningless to me," he says. "It's like it never happened. It's meaningless."

Winslet wants to barf

While many still consider **Celine Dion**'s "Titanic" tune, "My Heart Will Go On," a classic, **Kate Winslet** is literally sick of it. "I feel like throwing up when I hear it. No, I shouldn't say that. No, actually, I do feel like throwing up," Winslet tells MTV News. "I wish I could say, 'Oh listen, everybody! It's the Celine Dion song!' But I don't. I just have to sit there, you know, kind of straight-faced with a massive, internal eye-roll."

Gaga's tame birthday night

Lady Gaga had a not-so-wild celebration for her 26th birthday, treating her friends to some time at the gym before grabbing dinner with her parents, according to Us Weekly. "Her friends filled the studio, and they had a blast," a source says of Gaga's visit to SoulCycle, an L.A. spin class studio. "She requested [**Bruce Springsteen**'s] 'Thunder Road' because it's one of her favorite songs. And as for the location of the celebratory dinner: home. "It was just a small thing with her family," says the source. "Her mother cooked."

A very Technicolor weekend

1. Paula Abdul attended the Charitable Foundation Federation gala auction on Saturday in Moscow, Russia.

2. Selena Gomez and **Katy Perry** were seatmates at Nickelodeon's 25th Annual Kids' Choice Awards held at Galen Center on Saturday in Los Angeles.

3. Nicki Minaj performed onstage at FOX's "American Idol" Season 11 Top 9 To 8 Live Elimination Show on Thursday in Hollywood.

4. Justin Bieber and host **Will Smith** were doused in green slime at Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards on Saturday.

5. Stacy "Fergie" Ferguson arrived to celebrate her 37th birthday at 1 OAK Las Vegas at the Mirage Hotel & Casino on Friday in Las Vegas. According to People, she spent the night table-hopping from the one she shared with husband **Josh Duhamel** and **Ne-Yo** to one where **Michael Jordan** was sitting.

6. Vanessa Lachey showed off her baby bump (and husband **Nick Lachey**) on the red carpet during the opening of Marquee Nightclub at The Star on Friday in Sydney.

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Fresh Snow

- Lily Collins is the new Snow White in 'Mirror Mirror'
- 'I never thought that I'd be sword-fighting and fencing and learning all these cool stunts'

IAN TIBIS

▶ Lily Collins and her eyebrows star in "Mirror Mirror."

Lily Collins faces quite the tall order with director Tarsem Singh's "Mirror Mirror" — namely, putting a nonanimated face and an updated spin on perhaps the most classic of fairy tales, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves." But it's a challenge she's been happy to tackle. Even with a competing Snow White film grabbing for headlines, Collins (aka singer Phil's daughter) is working hard to keep her focus where she wants it.

Box Office

'The Hunger Games' No. 1 at box office

"The Hunger Games" dominated box office charts in the United States and Canada for the second straight weekend, adding to its record-setting debut a week ago.

"Hunger Games" pulled in $61.1 million from Friday through Sunday at domestic theaters, according to studio estimates released on Sunday. The movie about teens forced to fight to the death has grossed $251 million in North America during its first 10 days of release, distributor Lionsgate Entertainment said.

COURTESY OF LIONSGATE PUBLICITY

"Hunger Games" stormed into theaters last weekend with the third-highest grossing domestic opening in film history and biggest for a nonsequel.

Second place for this weekend belonged to action sequel "Wrath of the Titans" with $34.2 million. "Mirror Mirror," a family-oriented Snow White story, brought in $19 million, taking third place.

"Wrath of the Titans" was released by Time Warner Inc.'s Warner Bros. Privately held Relativity Media distributed "Mirror Mirror" in the United States and Alliance Films released the movie in Canada.

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Did you ever think, in playing a fairy tale princess, that you'd get to do an action movie training montage?

No! I mean, it was written in the script that she meets the dwarves and there would be sword fighting, but the script changed so much during filming that this montage, when it was added, I thought, "This is going to be so much fun to shoot." It took a long time to shoot, but when it's all cut together with the music, it's just so fun. And I never thought that I'd be sword-fighting and fencing and learning all these cool stunts.

It is an interesting update. Fairy tales traditionally aren't great for the females — lots of sitting around and pining, waiting to be rescued.

And that's what we did not want. We didn't want to take the animation and just make it live-action. We wanted to take it and have a reason to redo it. In today's day and age, girls are very empowered to do the same things that guys do. And young girls want to see movies that show people that they admire are not needing the prince as much as they used to.

How was it playing opposite Armie Hammer with these new takes on Snow White and Prince Charming?

It was fun because we both agreed from the get-go it's a very Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy back-and-forth — not just the physicality of the sword-fighting but the physicality of the language, because it is so back and forth, and we're both trying to one-up each other in conversations. It was very playful.

There's that other Snow White movie coming out in June. How much were you aware of the competing project?

I think it was known before we even started that there were these two projects. Aesthetically and with the storyline, they're so different. I think more of the struggle was just this whole, like, who's coming out first kind of a thing and making sure there's enough time in between so that everyone's not overloaded with the fairy tale. But that never really trickled down to us on set.

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

TV watch list

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▶ Finn, left, and Jake meet Flame Princess in the season premiere of "Adventure Time."

'Adventure Time'

ANIMATED. Finn plays with fire — literally — when he and his magical dog Jake encounter the Flame Princess, whom our boy-hero falls for in this cheeky, whimsical animated series. **Season premiere, 7:30 p.m., Cartoon Network**

'The Voice'

REALITY. It's two times the Adam Levine-Blake Shelton banter from here to the season finale, as "The Voice" begins live performances on Mondays and elimination episodes on Tuesdays, starting tonight. **8 p.m., NBC**

'American Masters'

DOCUMENTARY. Margaret Mitchell, who penned the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Gone with the Wind," and Harper Lee, who won her own Pulitzer for "To Kill a Mockingbird," are honored with documentaries: "Margaret Mitchell: American Rebel" (9 p.m.) and "Harper Lee: Hey, Boo" (10 p.m.). **9 and 10 p.m., PBS**

'Bones'

DRAMA. Brennan and Booth celebrate the birth of their baby girl! But they must also investigate a dead prisoner found in a sewer pipe. **8 p.m., Fox**

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3 Ways to spring into happiness

Zen in the City

GABRIELLE BERNSTEIN
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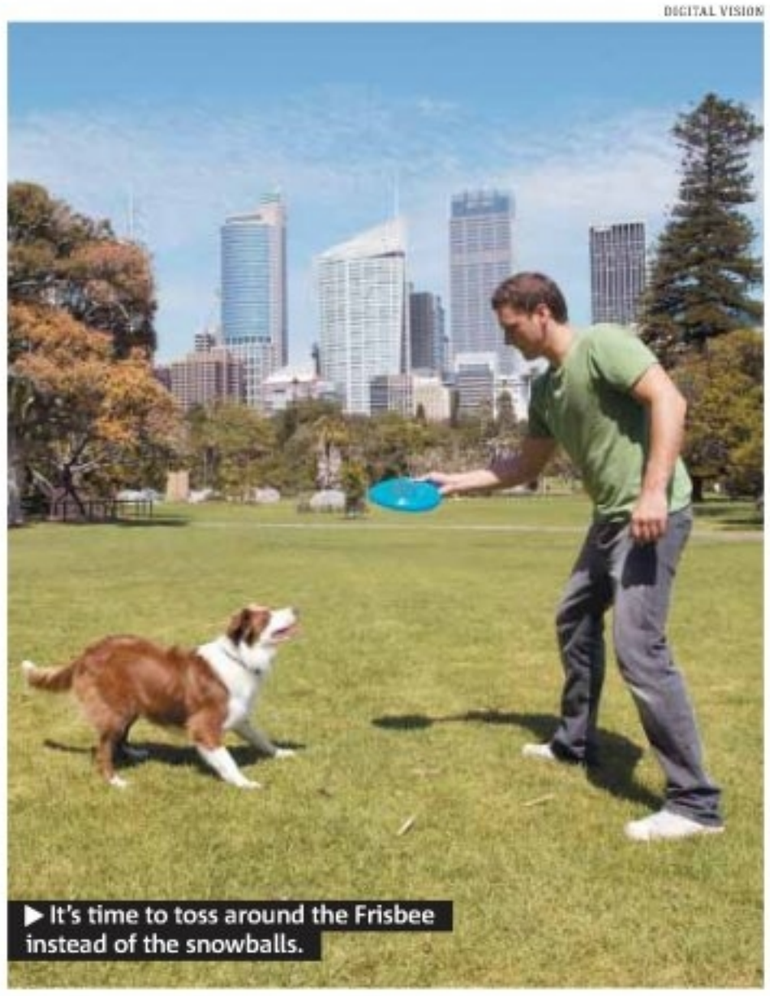
Springtime ignites a whole new attitude in city-dwellers. The heavy layers come off, the Frisbees start flying and a state of newfound happiness sets in. This spring season, amp up your good vibes with my tips for happiness.

Spring clean your mind: Spring offers us an awesome opportunity for cleaning house. Rather than put so much emphasis on spring-cleaning your closet, though, why don't you clear out some of the clutter in your mind? There's likely a thought (or several) that has been holding you back and keeping you stuck. Get honest with yourself about the negative thoughts that are limiting you and commit to a mental spring cleaning. The simplest way to begin is to start each day with a more positive intention. Each morning, affirm your desire for the day by saying: "Today I choose to perceive my life with positivity. I am willing to release the negative thoughts that have been holding me back from happiness." This simple mantra will jump-start your day with powerful energy and a commitment to happiness. Making the conscious decision to choose happiness will begin your mental clearing process.

Take a sun break: If you work at a desk or spend too much time indoors, make a point to step outside to soak up the sunshine. The sun has so many healing elements. When you're exposed to direct sunlight you produce endorphins, which bring about a burst of positive energy. Take a sun break once a day and let happiness shine upon you!

DIGITAL VISION



▶ It's time to toss around the Frisbee instead of the snowballs.

Plan a picnic

City-dwellers spend too much time eating takeout or obsessing over the latest hot restaurant. This spring, take advantage of the park and share an awesome picnic. You'll find joy in preparing a meal for a friend and saving some cash while you're at it. Bring your new attitude to the park, soak up the rays and enjoy your picnic!

*— **Gabrielle Bernstein** is the author of "Spirit Junkie."*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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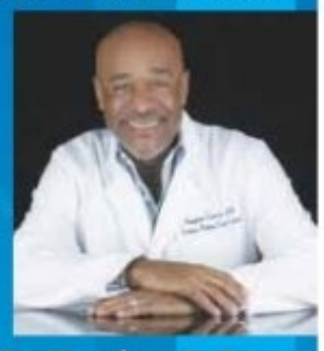

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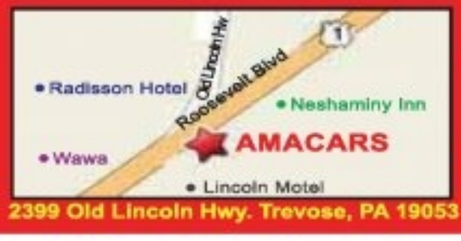

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Michele Granger

Breaking into the fashion industry

It's an intimidating field, no doubt But everyone has to start somewhere — and there's room for everyone

Missouri State professor Michele Granger wrote the book on breaking into the fashion industry — three times over. "Fashion Entrepreneurship: Retail Business Planning" and "The Fashion Intern" are both in their second editions. Plus, "Fashion: The Industry and Its Careers" is a must-read for anyone curious about a career in the field.

What's a good first step for breaking into the fashion industry?

Retail work — especially for kids that are still in high school. You get exposed to the products, management and sales. For college students, it's a step they can take before they move in at a higher level after graduation.

What degrees should undergrads consider?

There are really two primary avenues. One is a degree in fashion design or fashion product development; the other is fashion merchandising. Design skews toward the artistic, creative people. Merchandising is more of the business end.

The fashion industry seems to embody myriad industries — from finance to creative design.

Fashion is a lifestyle. It runs the gamut: what you put in your house, your stationary, what you put on your body. Add to that an incredible amount of news and journalism about the industry — publications and websites. If you figure out your skill set, you'll likely find a direction within the industry.

Is there room for altruism in a fashion industry career?

There are more and more nonprofits and others within the industry doing wonderful work. A lot of students say, "I don't want to be part of an industry that's frivolous and wasteful." We make sure to cover moral and ethical issues in our coursework at Missouri State, and any good program should do that.

BRUCE WALSH
bruce.walsh@metro.us

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The Christian Dior runway may be a long way off, but undergrads can start planning now.

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Escaping the daily grind

New job forum Escape the City matches burnt-out professionals with exotic, change-of-pace jobs

Interested in running a post office in Antarctica?

If you're still swiveling in circles on that office chair or stalking NASDAQ like a hawk with a bad headache, EscapeTheCity.org may be able to help.

Former Goldman Sachs executive director Greg Smith isn't the only restless professional fidgeting with his too-tight tie.

After Smith's recent resignation, countless cubicle-captives have been flocking to Escape the City, an organization whose mission statement dares workers to "Stop Dreaming and Start Planning. Don't Wait for Permission. Do Something Different."

In fact, in the week following Smith's resignation, Escape the City's website registered a four- fold increase in hits and overall membership.

Job requirements

Escape the City's job listings are far from arbitrary adventures in the wilderness. Partner companies must offer "jobs that match at least one of our four criteria: social impact, entrepreneurial, exotic location and exciting products," says Howe.

Founded by two ex-management consultants from London's corporate nucleus, Escape the City "showcases exciting opportunities for a community of talented corporate professionals and employers looking to change up the game," says team member Mikey Howe.

Having recently expanded from London's financial district to New York City's, the organization has discovered antsy sentiments stemming beyond Wall Street.

"We originally targeted people in standard corporate positions like finance, law and accounting, but we've actually tapped into something that is relatively universal," says Howe. "Our demographic is mostly 20- and 30-year-olds, but I get e-mails every day from people who have been working for 30-plus years in a wide range of industries they're now leaving."

Not only does the site offer job postings from Cambodian resort management to sustainability work in Sierra Leone, it's also a neighborhood-friendly forum. "We are very member-focused. Any of our members can reach out to communities of escapees, learning from those who came from similar backgrounds or entered their particular field of interest," says Howe. "It's a great mix of people both offering and looking for help."

TIFFANY KANG
letters@metro.us

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Advice

Smarter job searching

When you're on the job hunt, it's easy to take an "anything will work" approach to the scope of your search. Everyone remembers the grade-school saying "beggars can't be choosers," but it's not enjoyable to be saddled with a job that's not a good fit.

Here's some good news: There are simple tools that will not only ensure the jobs you're applying to are great fits for your personality, but also customize your current job portfolio to give you an edge.

Here's a roundup of four tools that can give you the edge in finding the perfect job.

CREATAS

▶ For weekly social media and Web job listings, visit www.mashable.com.

▶ **Resunate:** It's easy to think of a potential employer as the venerable "man behind the curtain." Resunate attempts to get rid of the curtain altogether by showing users just how their résumés look to a recruiter or potential employer. This tool parses your entire uploaded résumé and compares it to the description of the job you're after, acting the way an employer's applicant tracking system (ATS) would work. Then, you get a score from 1 to 10 that determines how well your application would stack up.

▶ **LunchMeet:** Oftentimes, securing the job that's perfect for you isn't about what you know, but who you know. LunchMeet is a spanking-new mobile app that gives you the opportunity to put yourself in front of business recruiters, upper-level execs and others in your industry without pressure. Simply sign up with your LinkedIn account and search to see what professionals are available for networking over lunch or coffee. Meeting with these professionals is also a great way to get an inside look at a company if you're looking to break in or change industries.

▶ **Glassdoor:** If you're interested in learning about the HR culture and work environment at a company, Glassdoor is a must-use. With everything from interview recaps to blind salary reports, Glassdoor gives the skinny on all aspects of a company from anonymous voices on the inside. Another useful feature of the website is the "CEO Approval Rating," letting you know how employees feel about their leader and upper management.

▶ **Indeed:** One of the most difficult things about a job search is, well, searching. Indeed's search engine makes the pain of search a little simpler. Thanks to its minimalist design, it just takes a couple of seconds to set up a recurring search protocol and a profile that displays your résumé to potential recruiters. With no up-front cost and little hassle, it's also easy to set up an alert system that will e-mail you whenever a potentially relevant job comes up.

LAUREN HOCKENSON FOR Mashable
The Social Media Guide

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Move from temp to employee

IMAGE SOURCE

▶ Want to stick around? Make sure your managers know it.

These days, you need to be creative when it comes to a job search — and that includes being open to temporary positions. Once you have your foot in the door as a temp, though, how do you go about turning that into a secure position?

"Make sure you speak up," insists Monster.com's senior editor, Charles Purdy. "If you're freelancing directly with the company, speak to HR and to not only your managers, but other managers, about your willingness to go full-time."

Keeping quiet won't help you when trying to segue into a permanent position. "Some firms may assume that you prefer temp jobs for a number of reasons," suggests John Millikin, former VP of HR at Motorola.

You may be unofficially interviewing for a long-term job. "Keep in mind that a temp position is often used to determine whether a person will fit into the organization's culture and work relationships," says Millikin.

And this interview should work both ways. Ask yourself the following questions, suggests Millikin: "Would you be happy working there? Do you like the people with whom you would be working? Once hired, would there be opportunities to grow and develop there?"

Winning isn't everything

If your temp job doesn't turn into a hired position, stay positive about the experience.

▶ "You can still leverage the contacts and connections you made and the expertise you gained," says Gautam Godhwani, CEO at SimplyHired.com. "For future opportunities at a different company in the same industry, you'll already have a leg-up on the competition and some insider knowledge."

JULIA WEST
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Letters

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Lottery mania could yield better results

Can we all agree that giving $640 million to potentially one person, or even a few people, is obscene and completely stupid? What are they going to spend it on — 10,000 yachts, 900 mansions? It's too much. They'd have been better to announce, "We are going to pick 5,000 winners to split it." Why don't we create a more intelligent lottery where more people automatically win each week, but win $100,000 a year for the rest of their lives? I bet most Americans, if it were put to a vote, would choose this method, because their odds of winning would be infinitely better. Also, if 1,000 people every single week won $100,000 per year, this would help our economy more and reduce unemployment too! It also means they wouldn't go insane like the winners who receive too much. And it means they wouldn't be mugged, like a person who wins millions is too often!

LIAM KIRCHBERGER, VIA E-MAIL

More than half a billion dollars? Wow, that's insane! At work, everyone talked about what they would do with some of the money. I couldn't really think of anything but the basics!

VINCENT C-FLEMING, VIA E-MAIL

Prayer as health care? Good luck

A recent survey found that 25 percent of Americans believe prayer is an effective form of health care. These 25 percent should not be forced to buy health care insurance. But don't you dare show up at the emergency room! Just duct tape the Bible to your gunshot wound and use your rosary beads to form a tourniquet.

ROBERT LA ROSA, VIA E-MAIL

"No person can be loyal to the Constitution and uphold the charter of the U.N."

No person can be loyal to the Constitution and uphold the charter of the U.N. They are as opposite as light and dark, good and evil, freedom and slavery. No man can serve two masters. Support of the U.N. by government officials and employees is a violation of their oath. Wittingly or unwittingly, it is treason.

FRANK ST. GEORGE, VIA E-MAIL

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Obama sold voters out to Russia

RE: "PRESIDENT OBAMA ON TRIAL FOR THE TRUTH": Mr. Beschler, to your critique of my letter: "People like Minkin" (thank you for being polite) will "read malevolence" into what Obama whispered to Medvedev over the hot mic since we find it very disappointing that our President would attempt, for re-election sake alone, to hide his true intentions from the American people and yet to share those with the government of a foreign country, especially such a strong rival of ours. What you call his "pretty ambiguous statement" is in fact crystal clear — to make concessions to Russia and to scale down our missile defense of Europe, which also telegraphs his weakness, both as a leader and as a diplomat, to our allies and enemies alike. Frankly, his chances for re-election have just suffered a huge blow. And I'm not a Republican, if that's what you thought.

GAROLD MINKIN, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** If this weekend didn't offer you much recreational relief, don't push yourself too heavily. Balance your mental processes in order to move forward.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** You won't be compelled to take some time to help assuage the needs of others, but you'll feel good about yourself if you do. Devote as much time as you feel you can to the process.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** You'll come up with a rather ingenious concept — and because you're a natural-born salesperson, you shouldn't have any problem selling it to the powers that be.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** This is one of those days when you could be inclined to be a bit loose with your resources and easily spend them on something you enjoy rather than on what you need. Be careful.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Sometimes getting others to do something that you're eminently qualified to do for yourself can be stupid. Delegating some of your work might be deleterious rather than helpful.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** This is one of those days when you will be far more effective playing a supportive role rather than a starring one. Position yourself where you'll be able to do the most good.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Because your affairs have a better chance of working out than you anticipate, don't let yourself get discouraged over something petty. Stay positive and optimistic throughout the day.

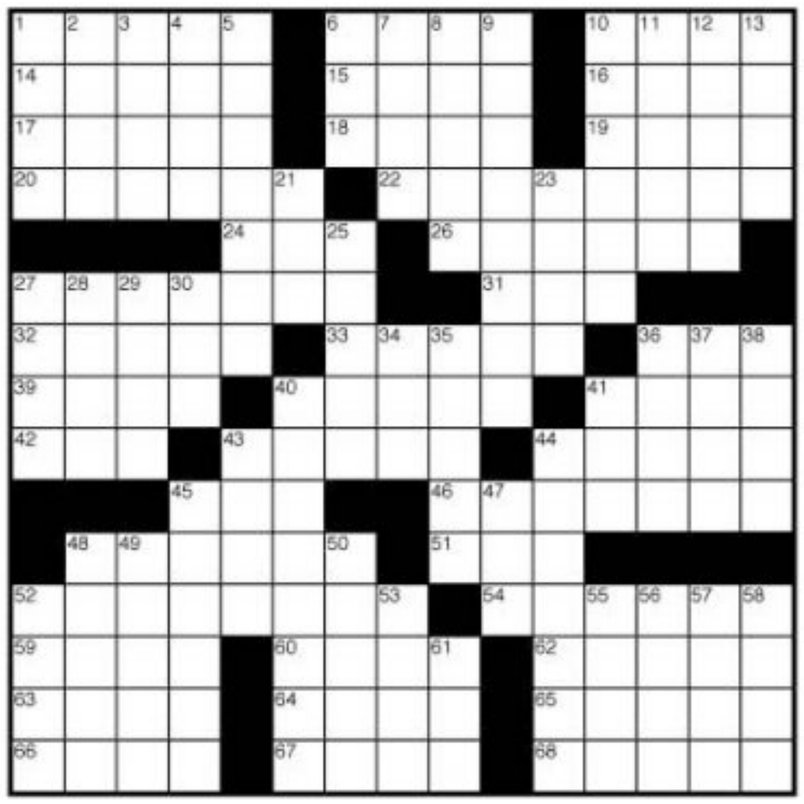
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** By staying positive, others will admire the way you handle things and their approbation will enhance your image even further. Having a good attitude makes for success.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Because you'll have implicit faith in whatever your position happens to be today, you'll be easily aroused to a righteous defense. You're in the right, and you should have no problems making your points.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Don't hesitate to trade on the business acumen of a trusted associate. A joint endeavor in which you're involved will be far more promising with her or him on board.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** If you sense that making a concession or a compromise can be to your ultimate benefit, you'd be right. This is one of those times when giving can be the key to getting.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Your chances for achieving success will be increased if you make sure your goal is clearly defined. It might be better to have only one major target at a time. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**



Across
1 Scale a peak
6 B-movie crook
10 Distance measure
14 Refuse to conform
15 Unwritten test
16 Operating system
17 Farewell
18 Profound
19 Ocean fish
20 All for naught
22 Rainbow, in physics
24 Groovy
26 Mountain refrains
27 Whirlwind
31 Cohort of Bela
32 Loaf around
33 Enjoy (2 wds.)
36 Knows how
39 "Jabberwocky" start
40 Cancel a launch
41 Dove shelter
42 U-turn from NNE
43 Fix up a building
44 More in touch
45 Rte. mappers
46 Sauteed
48 Heavy-duty paper
51 Shrill bark
52 Choker or chain
54 Year-end ornament
59 Gas or tel.
60 Ex-NFL coach Chuck __
62 "__ Get Your Gun"
63 Rich source
64 Quartet minus one
65 Herman's Hermits lead
66 Bewildered
67 Pitfall
68 Had

Down
1 Gizzard
2 Zeus visited her as a swan
3 Hieroglyphics bird
4 Get acquainted
5 Arctic mammal (2 wds.)
6 Zippy's word
7 Goddess of strife
8 Quebec peninsula
9 Choral group (2 wds.)
10 Meat dish
11 Habituate
12 "Peanuts" kid
13 Midterm or final
21 Karate level
23 __ suey
25 Deciduous tree
27 PC screens
28 Hedge shrubs
29 Lobster pincer
30 Vegas lead-in
34 A Knute successor
35 Roly-poly
36 Mass. neighbor
37 Suits to __ __
38 Bookish type
40 Caulks or varnishes
41 Raven's call
43 Tout's hangout
44 Opera heroine, often
45 Short sock
47 Untrained
48 Ditto (2 wds.)
49 Etching fluids
50 Kind of squash
52 Declare invalid
53 Essayist's pen name
55 Adequate, way back
56 Familiar auth.
57 Pitchfork part
58 Take to heart
61 Fireplace necessity

			6			2		
1							8	3
8			3		7	1		9
	3	6		5	2			
	5						3	
			7	3		8	5	
3		9	2		4			7
5	7							6
		2			5			

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

6	9	3		1				7
				7				2
7		2		3		9	8	
	8		3			4		
		7			5		1	
	7	4		9		6		1
3				6				
1				5		3	7	9

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to weekend's crossword

B	A	L	I	■	H	I	C	K	S	■	R	A	M	S
O	M	E	N	■	A	W	A	I	T	■	U	T	A	H
Z	E	S	T	■	S	O	T	T	O	■	M	O	D	E
O	N	E	A	L	■	■	S	T	R	I	P	P	E	D
■	■	■	K	O	P	S	■	Y	E	L	L	■	■	■
D	A	N	E	G	E	L	D	■	■	L	I	F	T	S
R	N	A	■	O	C	E	A	N	■	S	N	A	R	E
A	S	P	S	■	K	E	V	I	N	■	G	R	E	W
K	E	E	L	S	■	K	E	P	I	S	■	A	V	E
E	L	S	I	E	■	■	S	P	L	E	N	D	I	D
■	■	■	P	A	C	E	■	Y	E	T	I	■	■	■
I	M	P	A	N	E	L	S	■	■	H	M	O	N	G
G	L	O	W	■	L	A	T	T	E	■	B	E	T	E
E	L	L	A	■	T	R	A	I	L	■	L	I	S	T
R	E	L	Y	■	S	A	R	E	K	■	E	L	B	A

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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MLB PREVIEW

MONDAY
APRIL 2, 2012
#1 DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

- Starting rotation remains biggest strength, but can the Phillies score runs?
- Lack of Utley, Howard could hurt chances at sixth straight NL East crown
- Don't count out a major midseason move from the GM

Projected lineup

1 Jimmy Rollins, SS — J-Roll has had problems staying healthy and needs to up his .268 2011 average.

2 Placido Polanco, 3B — Chose not to upgrade. Need Polly to return to his 2010 form.

3 Shane Victorino, CF — Victorino is in his prime entering his walk year. Led Phils in OPS (.847) in 2011.

4 Hunter Pence, RF — He's the key with Utley, Howard out. A full year of Pence should translate to big (Triple Crown?) numbers.

5 Ty Wigginton, 1B — Journeyman batted .180 this spring. He'll platoon with Mayberry, Laynce Nix, Jim Thome.

6 John Mayberry, LF — Has to prove he can hit righties: .236 vs. them for his career.

7 Carlos Ruiz, C — Phils will take .283 in the 7-hole. You can't put a value on his defense.

8 Freddy Galvis, 2B — Can he hit big-league pitching? We'll find out. Batted .256 this spring.

▶ The starting rotation will count on catcher Carlos Ruiz once again.

AL MESSERSCHMIDT/GETTY IMAGES

One for the road?

There is much debate on whether the Phillies' window of opportunity is closing.

They're too old. They can't hit. They're injury-prone. However, some believe that the team could go deep in the postseason this year and beyond as long as the three aces toe the mound for the Phillies.

"When you have three starters like Roy Halladay, Cliff Lee and Cole Hamels, you have a distinct advantage over most other teams," an NL scout said. "Sure, they may have some offensive issues, but you don't have to score a heck of a lot of runs when you have that kind of pitching. They may have overspent for Jonathan Papelbon but look for him to be a terrific closer in Philly."

The Phillies have the pitching. But someone has to drive in some runs to enable that staff to win games. According to Baseball Prospectus, the offensive decline for most hitters strikes when players are between 32 and 34, which is where many of these Phillies fall. Factor in that gaping hole in the heart of the order to start the season.

Remember, no Ryan Howard. And no Chase Utley.

"Nobody's felt sorry for us in the past," Phils skipper Charlie Manuel said. "I don't think our guys feel that way. I feel like that's what we have and that's what we're going to play with."

Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who won a World Series in 2009 with a Yankees squad led by stars in their mid-30s, thinks the Phillies' offense will be just fine.

"I think that's a team that can still go to the World Series," Girardi said. "Not every team has a Jimmy Rollins, a Shane Victorino or Carlos Ruiz. Those guys are clutch guys. Look at the big hits Rollins and Ruiz have gotten in big situations and especially in the playoffs.

Quoted

"You don't have to score a heck of a lot of runs when you have that kind of pitching."
NL SCOUT

"I think most guys would take their chances managing a team like that. And at some point this season, they'll get [Ryan] Howard back. I don't think it's all over for the Phillies by any stretch."

The Phillies also have a GM willing to do whatever it takes to get to the postseason. When the Phillies needed arms, Ruben Amaro acquired the best, Roy Halladay and Cliff Lee. When the Phillies needed a bat, they scored the finest available last July by trading for Hunter Pence.

"That's another reason to believe that the Phillies will be a strong contender every year," the NL scout said. "They have a general manager who will go for it. Add that to a strong nucleus and good things should happen."

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▶ Charlie Manuel is thrilled to have Jim Thome back in the clubhouse.

Jim and Charlie: Reunited and it feels so good

- Thome, Manuel have father-son type relationship
- Slugger to provide instant offense, fill in at first

When Jim Thome wasn't working on fielding drills in the early morning Florida sun, he was standing around his locker chatting with his manager Charlie Manuel.

It was like watching a proud father holding court with his accomplished son. Manuel is clearly thrilled to have Thome around, to start some games at first base and to provide a late-inning power threat off the bench. But Manuel also loves having him around the clubhouse.

Unlike some of Manuel's other players, the 41-year-old Thome let the hitting guru mold him into one of the game's greatest home-run hitters. Thome listened as a raw Midwestern kid and his ear is always open for Manuel.

"Charlie knows a thing or two about hitting," Manuel said. "He knows a lot about baseball period. It would be foolish not to listen to every word he says."

There is a deep bond between Manuel and Thome that was forged during their days together in Cleveland, when Manuel was the club's hitting guru and Thome was a very promising bat.

Manuel went on to manage the Indians and Thome became one of his most successful pupils. Thome signed a massive free agent contract with the Phillies in 2003 and Manuel followed his charge to Philly two seasons later and became the most successful manager in franchise history.

When Thome signed a free agent deal this past offseason with the Phillies, Manuel hoped that his close friend could play first base.

"Jim knows how to hit," he said. "He's always been a very good hitter. He can still hit. He's going to help us."

While waiting his turn, you can bet that Thome will be talking baseball with Manuel.

"I love going over things with him," Thome said. "One of the great things about coming back to the Phillies was being around him. [Manuel]. He's a great person, who knows the game as good as anybody. We enjoy each other's company."

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In a pinch

Thome's primary role will be as a pinch-hitter who can change the game with one swing. The Phillies haven't had such a bench player since Matt Stairs went for the fences each time he came up to the plate.

"I'm going to do all that I can for this team," Thome said. "I'll try to play some games at first base. I hope that works out. I would love to get a couple of bats a game and make an impact."

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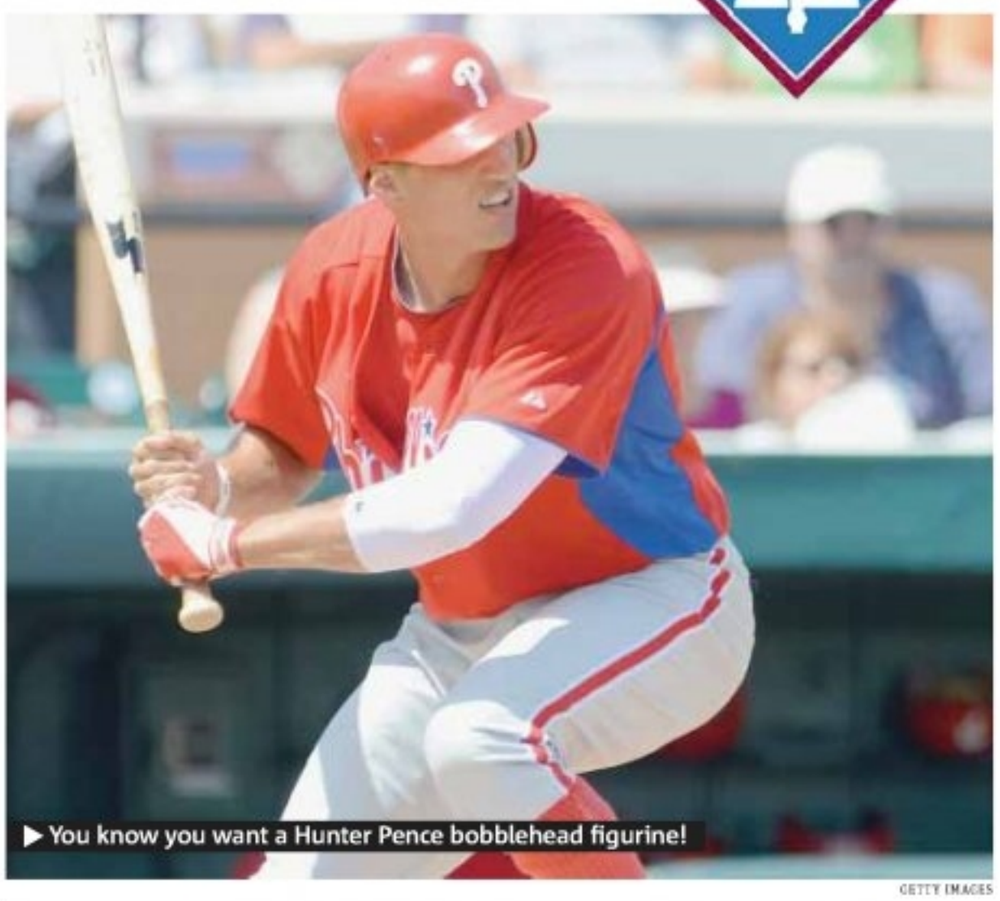

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PROMOTIONS SCHEDULE

- ▶ **HUNTER PENCE BOBBLE: AUG. 21, VS. REDS, 7:05 P.M.**
- ▶ CLIFF LEE BOBBLE: June 4, vs. Dodgers, 7:05 P.M.
- ▶ **CHARLIE MANUEL BASEBALL: APRIL 14, VS. METS, 4:05 P.M.**
- ▶ COLE HAMELS ACTION FIGURE: Sept. 23, vs. Braves, TBA
- ▶ **PHILLIE PHANATIC BANK: APRIL 29, VS. CUBS, 1:35 P.M.**
- ▶ PHILLIES SCARF: MAY 13, vs. Padres, 1:35 P.M.
- ▶ **ROY HALLADAY FATHEAD: JULY 22, VS. GIANTS, 1:35 P.M.**
- ▶ FIREWORKS NIGHTS: June 22 and 23, vs. Pirates, 7:05 P.M.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- ▶ **TODAY AND TOMORROW, VS. PIRATES, 7:05 P.M. (ON-DECK SERIES)**
- ▶ April 5 at Pirates, 1:35 (Opening Day)
- ▶ **APRIL 7, AT PIRATES, 7:05 P.M.**
- ▶ APRIL 8, at Pirates, 1:35 P.M.
- ▶ **APRIL 9, VS. MARLINS, 1:05 P.M. (HOME OPENER)**
- ▶ APRIL 11, vs. Marlins, 7:05 P.M.
- ▶ **APRIL 12, VS. MARLINS, 7:05 P.M. (DOLLAR DOG NIGHT)**
- ▶ APRIL 13, vs. Mets, 7:05 P.M.
- ▶ **APRIL 14, VS. METS, 4:05 P.M.**
- ▶ APRIL 15, vs. Mets, 1:35 P.M. (Jackie Robinson Salute)

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Manuel is sticking up for the Fightins.

Manuel: Phils still team to beat in NL East

The Phillies wrapped up spring training yesterday in Florida. Charlie Manuel's squad tied the Braves 7-7 in their Grapefruit League finale.

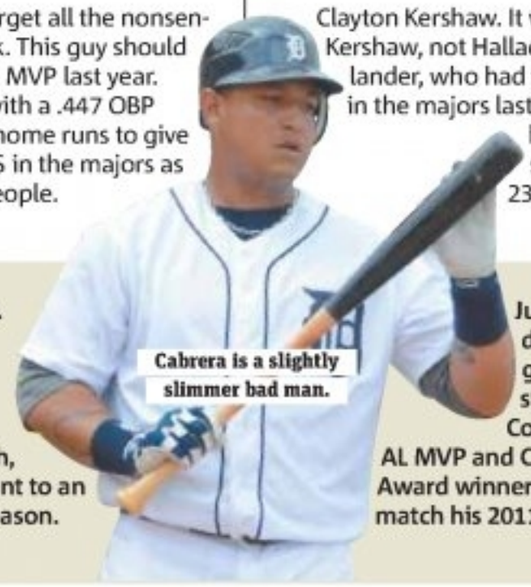
Before the game, the Phillies' fearless leader had some words for the rest of the National League East — and anyone else that might be doubting the Phillies.

"I think until somebody beats us, we're the team to beat," Manuel said. "We ain't going to lay down for anybody. We've got a bunch of guys that like to play. You can smack us. We're not going to turn the other cheek. We're going to fight you back. We ain't going to lay down and die."

The Phils return to Citizens Bank Park today for an exhibition game versus the Pirates. They'll play two here before heading to Pittsburgh for the opener Thursday. METRO

The editors' regular season roundtable

	Which team will lead the majors in wins during the regular season?	Which hitter will have the best regular season?	Which pitcher will have the best regular season?	Which team will be a surprise — good or bad — this year?
Mike Greger **Metro Philadelphia** **NL East:** Phillies **NL Central:** Reds **NL West:** Giants	Detroit. They already had perennial Cy Young candidate Justin Verlander. Now the Tigers throw Prince Fielder's 40 home runs into the mix. We're betting on 100 wins and a cigarette endorsement deal for Jim Leyland.	Joey Votto. The 28-year-old sometimes gets lost in the shuffle, but with Prince Fielder and Albert Pujols changing leagues, it's his time.	Roy Halladay. Silence all the Stephen Strasburg talk right now. Doc spent his offseason wrestling snakes and polishing his two Cy Young awards. Mark the Phillies' ace down for 22 wins and 240 innings. Another ho-hum season.	Pittsburgh. They haven't had a winning season since 1992 and are throwing out Erik Bedard on Opening Day. Still, in a weak division, we like the Bucs to do some damage. Andrew McCutchen is a five-tool talent.
Mark Osborne **Metro New York** **AL East:** Rays **AL Central:** Tigers **AL West:** Angels	Angels. Sure, everyone knows they added Albert Pujols, but look at their pitching staff. Jered Weaver, C.J. Wilson, Dan Haren and Ervin Santana could be the best top 4 in the entire majors. Oh, also, they signed Albert Pujols.	Jose Bautista. Forget all the nonsensical steroids talk. This guy should have won the AL MVP last year. He batted .302 with a .447 OBP and clubbed 42 home runs to give him the best OPS in the majors as well. He's real people.	Clayton Kershaw. It was Kershaw, not Halladay or Verlander, who had the best ERA in the majors last year. He had 248 strikeouts in 233 1/3 IP.	Atlanta. This is going to be an ugly surprise. The Braves have Matt Diaz and Tyler Pastornicky in their lineup and they just signed Livan Hernandez as a possible starter. I can't believe people think this team is an actual playoff contender.
Matt Burke **Metro Boston** **AL wild cards:** Yankees and Rangers **NL wild cards:** Marlins and Diamondbacks	San Francisco. The offense was dreadful last season, but the return of Buster Posey in the middle of the lineup should help reverse San Fran's fortunes.	Miguel Cabrera. Reported to camp in the "best shape of his life." That's not saying much, but all signs point to an otherworldly season.	Justin Verlander. Still the gold standard. Could the 2011 AL MVP and Cy Young Award winner possibly match his 2011 output?	Tampa Bay. Every year, people count out the Rays and it's always hard to understand why. With lefty Matt Moore, the most experienced rookie in the majors, Tampa Bay could easily win the AL East outright in 2012. Here's saying they will.



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2012 Phillies preview

PREDICTIONS SURE TO GO WRONG

The Phillies open the 2012 season on April 5 in Pittsburgh. There will be a lot of talk and predictions in the coming days, but here are 10 things we are getting a jump-start on — or some bold predictions sure to go wrong.

- **Cole Hamels gets his deal.** Hamels will get a six-year deal worth $20 million a season. The Phillies will keep the three aces intact beyond 2012 and Hamels will be so rich that he won't ever need to do another Xfinity commercial.
- **What a relief.** Reliever Jake Diekman will be called up by May 1 and have a better rookie season than Michael Stutes had last year.
- **Old man Polly.** Placido Polanco will suffer through another spate of injuries (again) and be ineffective (again) as the aging infielder tries to play through the bumps and bruises.
- **Who's on first?** Jim Thome, at 41, will hit double-digit homers and play twice a week at first until Ryan Howard returns from his Achilles tendon rehab.
- **Hunting season.** Hunter Pence will be the offensive reason the Phillies win their sixth consecutive NL East crown. Pence will carry the team on his broad shoulders, hit more than 35 homers and push for the Triple Crown.
- **Steady Freddy.** Freddy Galvis, who has a great glove, will provide enough offense batting out of the 8-hole and make his share of "Web Gems" each week.
- **Moyer Mania.** Jamie Moyer will beat the Phillies when the Rockies come to Citizens Bank Park. The old man will somehow win 11 games for Colorado. Moyer will eventually be the first 300-game winner to not make the Hall of Fame.
- **Nationals treasure.** The Phillies will continue to dominate the Nationals, especially in D.C. Can't wait for Phillies fans "Occupy Nationals Park" movement in early May.
- **Everyone doesn't hit.** Cole Hamels will throw his first no-hitter. He'll be perfect in a 1-0 win over Clayton Kershaw and the Dodgers on June 4 (it's Cliff Lee bobblehead night). Victorino will score on a throwing error in the ninth.
- **Leading off.** Juan Pierre, not Jimmy Rollins, will lead off for the Phillies, with Rollins in the 3-hole. Pence will bat cleanup and Victorino fifth.

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jamie Moyer, right, hangs out with Jimmy Rollins at a charity event last year.

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#5557 Geraldine Acosta, 5208 Michael Anthony, 3085 Jerry Bey, 1025 Sean Cashman, 4053 Frank Casillo, 5752 Michelle Coley, 5312 Carlito Cordial, 574A James Dellavecchia, 2038 Ralph Eme, 1005 Carlena Hayes, 3089 Robert Nagy, 5067 Rhonda Patterson, 1058 Elizabeth Trimble.

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#401 Douglas Bambus, 110 Joseph Burke, 1510 Melissa Fuentes, 1618 Demetrius Fung, 300 Earl Jorgensen, 500 Carmen Maldonado, 1502 Valerie McIntire, 606 Vendell Nasir, 409 Colleen Riffert, 1201 Angela Stott, 1611 Grafton Thomas.

At 10 am at 5440 North 6th Street, Phila., PA 19120
#2314 Abdul K Abdurhakim, 3418 Edilene Anderson, 2208 Vernette Bailey, 26 Cheryl Brown, 3503 Mary Bunkley, 130 La Tonya Curry-Thaxter, 1403 Tracy Foster, 127 Loretta Gilmore, 3001 Peter Gordon, 1300 Linda Grissom, 28 Robert Hawkins, 1107 Jacqueline Holton, 218 Steven McCollum, 323 Steven McMicheaux, 3205 Bertram Polston, 1406 Lovelena B. Snow, 1405 La Tonya Thaxter, 2303 Tysheda Thompson, 3400 Rikita Watson, 1104 Rodney C. Whetstone, 3105 Jose Vellez.

At 10 am at 5026 Ridge Ave., Phila., PA 19128
#129 Richard Boulden, 224 Stephen Brill, 309 Kimberly Crowe, 43 Edward Deutch, 405 Anthony Matteo, 252 Michelle Wayman.

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Mayberry up to challenge

With Ryan Howard and Chase Utley out indefinitely, the Phillies are hoping for another power source.

John Mayberry Jr.

Mayberry will have a chance to prove that the 12 homers he hit in just 163 at-bats in 2011 wasn't a fluke, but the beginning of something special.

The left-field job is Mayberry's to lose, according to Phils skipper Charlie Manuel. The only reason Mayberry may not be in left is to man first base. Ben Francisco earned the right-field job last season after a terrific spring. However, Francisco failed miserably when the 2011 campaign commenced.

"I'm just trying to go in and play my game and do the best I can," Mayberry said. "I want to help the team as much as possible."

Mayberry has had a difficult spring. He has failed to hit his weight and has struggled against left-handed pitching. If it's any solace, spring training success means nothing unless you're fighting for a job, which isn't the case for Mayberry. He is versatile, powerful and earned the chance to start based on last season's success.

"He [Mayberry] showed us a lot last season," Manuel said.

"I'm ready for it," Mayberry said. "I've been playing for a long time and I want to make the most of my chance."

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Time: 2:30pm Date: Tuesday, April 17th, 2012 Place: 2990 S 20th St

1023 Edwards, Shatila	1117 Saundra Taylor	1342 Porter, Kathryn	1403 Pointer, Lashireyia	1732 Pisano, Barbara
1053 Trueheart, Carolyn	1145 Sampson, Latasha	1346 Black , Renee	1406 Williams, Robert	1741 Ferrante, Philip
1066 Wilson, Shedira	1265 McNish, Hasan	1387 Murawski, Kathleen Mary	1458 Holmes, Miquana	1463A Kenya_Wyatt
1101 Briggs, Anthony	1284 Trueheart, Carolyn		1617 Toris Greenfield	

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Time: 12:30pm Date: Tuesday, April 17th 2012 Place: 5134 Lancaster Ave Philadelphia, PA

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*3053 Cory Lemons	*2324 DeAngela Floyd	*2360 Tonya Lundy
*2307 Georgette Hardy	*4002 James Wynn	*3068 Ashley Connell
*1026 John Walker	*2001 John Timms	
*1160 Rasool Muhammad	*2239 Tamara Watson	

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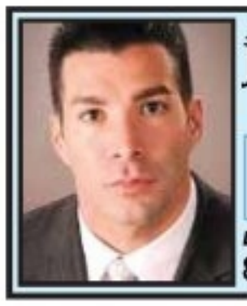
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On the horizon

GM, Ford and Chrysler will hire 14,750 workers represented by the UAW by 2015, according to the Center for Automotive Research. The three automakers employed 110,150 UAW-represented workers last year, down almost two-thirds from about 300,000 in 2001, according to the center. By 2015, the U.S. automakers will employ 120,400 UAW workers, the center estimates.

"How the UAW sustains its organization and their membership will depend on how they grow," Dziczek said. "There's going to have to be growth through organizing."

Jobs added, but UAW needs more for greater clout

The United Auto Workers membership rose 1.1 percent to 380,719 at the end of last year, the union's second consecutive annual gain, as U.S. automakers added employees amid rising sales.

The UAW added 4,107 members from 376,612 in 2010, according to a filing Friday with the U.S. Labor Department.

General Motors, Ford and Chrysler gained sales and boosted their share of the U.S. market last year. While the UAW's 2011 gain followed a 6 percent increase in 2010, the UAW's total membership is still only about one-fourth its size in 1979, when it peaked at 1.5 million members.

"In order to gain any kind of strength at the bargaining table, they're going to have to be a bigger union," said Kristin Dziczek of the Center for Automotive Research. "Organizing new workers is critical to the UAW's future. That's their challenge and that's what they've got to do. It won't be easy."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Growth in autoworkers at Detroit's Big Three isn't enough for increasing UAW's clout.

Detroit-based UAW wants to rebuild membership after failing to organize U.S. factories of Toyota, Honda and Nissan. UAW President Bob King pledged to expand the union's bargaining power by organizing a U.S. plant owned by an Asian or European automaker in 2011. King failed to meet that deadline.

The union president said last year the UAW was in discussions with automakers he didn't identify. The UAW this month started passing out authorization cards at Volkswagen's plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Reuters reported last week, citing factory workers it didn't identify. BLOOMBERG

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Pushing for sky, luxury newcomer has its limits

Former designer for Aston Martin, BMW has started his own high-end car company His ride has comparable shortcomings, auto editor informs

Henrik Fisker gets nostalgic as he reminisces about the cars of the 1950s. He loves oversized, over-the-top designs with soaring fins and lush interiors.

"Those were American cars that ruled the road," he said.

While the 48-year-old Dane previously designed cars for Aston Martin and BMW, it takes a Grand Canyon-sized leap to start a car company. He co-founded Fisker Automotive Inc. in 2007 and showed the Fisker Karma concept a year later. It's meant to be unpredictable, surprising, fast and sexy — with an environmental twist. The hybrid can run in all-electric mode or in tandem with a small gasoline engine. It's now on sale, stuffed with eco-conscious technology.

It's easy to get swept up in Fisker's vision. I just wish I liked the car better.

As a luxury sports sedan, the Karma, starting at $103,000, looks exotic. Its generous proportions hover somewhere between the voluptuousness of a 1960s Italian exotic like a Maserati and the over-ripeness of a 1970s Corvette.

Fisker argues the Karma's major selling point is its blend of sportiness and green credentials. I'm not convinced. Luxury consumers don't like compromises, and the Karma is full of them. The car works similarly to the Chevy Volt. It can run on all-electric power from a lithium-ion battery pack in what Fisker calls "stealth mode."

This new technology comes with its own set of issues. These may include reliability. Consumer Reports said its Karma, which it bought, broke down. The San Francisco Chronicle reported that four out of five shipped to one dealership had software glitches almost immediately.

I experienced nothing like that. But the meshing of systems is often noisy and harsh, with unaccounted-for noises and vibrations. This happens almost entirely when the gas engine is on, and in a luxury ride it's unacceptable.

Nor is the car especially fast. Combined power from the motors is a claimed 403 horsepower and 959 pound-feet of torque. That should translate into sonic speeds, except the heavy batteries and additional equipment weigh it down. At some 5,300 pounds, it's heavier than some SUVs. BLOOMBERG

At a glance

- **Range:** More than 30 miles on all-electric; an additional 250 miles in extended-range mode
- **Price as tested:** $116,000
- **Best features:** Eye-catching exterior, stealth-mode driving
- **Worst features:** Cramped, shudders and unpleasant engine noise
- **Target buyer:** The Silicon Valley wunderkind who wants to show his eco side

GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Fisker Karma, luxury scene newcomer, has shortcomings.

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